

**Town of Brentwood  
Budget Committee Hearing  
Minutes of November 1, 2010**

*Present:* Elyse Seeley (Chair), Bill Faria, Ken Christiansen, Tracie May, Charlie Gargaly (Swasey School Board Rep.), Bob Mantegari and Malcolm Allison

*Absent:* Jeff Bryan (Selectmen's Rep.)

Chairperson Elyse Seeley called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

**WELCOME**

1. Correspondence and communications to committee
  - a. Communication from Charlie Gargaly re: school vacation conflict with the school district meeting.
  - b. Brochure from the NH Local Govt Center, 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Conf Nov 17-19<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Elyse to get copies of SAU Annual Report for BudComm.
  - d. Phyllis sent total of distressed tax properties for this tax year in town- 13, compared to 4 at this time last year.

**OLD BUSINESS**

2. Approval of past Minutes
  - a. BudComm Minutes from February, 2010 meeting. Ken made a motion to accept, Malcolm 2<sup>nd</sup> ; the minutes were accepted with Charlie and Bob abstaining.
  - b. BudComm Minutes from September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Bill made a motion to accept as amended with Ken 2<sup>nd</sup>. Accepted with Charlie and Bob abstaining.
  - c. BudComm Minutes from October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Malcolm made a motion to accept as amended, Ken 2<sup>nd</sup>. Accepted with Tracie abstaining.

**NEW BUSINESS**

3. Report from Charlie on behalf of the SCS Board
  - Preliminary look at the numbers indicate that aside from union contract negotiations, other budget categories likely to change include: Retirement increasing due to less funding by the state; special education costs are anticipated to be lower (Charlie to get supporting information re: is this due to the number of students requiring services, or a reduction in services required); and Transportation costs will be higher per the negotiated contract.
4. Update from Elyse on behalf of the ERCSD

- Expecting a significant increase in the Retirement line item (again due to reduction of state funds) \$250K
  - Guidance line item will be going up. The dept had not replaced one retiring member of the staff, but the dept. is having difficulty functioning short-handed.
  - November 17<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting at which the budget will be discussed.
5. Voting on individual town department budgets that have been approved by the Selectmen.
- Budget Committee: Ken/Charlie motion to vote. \$700 budget passed w/ Tracie abstaining
  - Legal Dept: Malcolm/bob motioned to table the vote until Jeff Bryan could be at the meeting to explain cost increases.
  - Executive Committee: Malcolm/Ken motion to table the vote because there was no definition of LOSAP.
  - Animal Control: Malcolm/Tracie motioned to table the vote because there was no explanation of the expense increase.
  - Code Enforcement: Ken/Malcolm motion to vote. \$17,262 passed unanimously

## 6. OTHER

- Swasey School Board meetings are held the second Monday of each month. Malcolm will be attending the 11/8/10 meeting to ask questions. Charlie raised the topic of the SCS Capital Improvement Plan – an estimate for replacing old portions of the Swasey roof is \$62,000.
  - Bob Mantegari will contact Dick Wendell to get details behind the estimate. (Bob is an insurance adjuster)
- COLA/CPI discussion. Before voting on this matter, Elyse is going to speak with Julie Stevens re: status of town employees who are due for steps, etc.
- The ERCSD budget increases and the costs for the new Fire Dept will put the budget over last year's. And, the town will be hit with the increase due to less State funding of the Retirement expense, and the increase in health care costs.
- The Selectmen have asked the Budget Committee to attend their 11/2 meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:45 pm with no further discussion.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Tracie M May, secretary